

Environment/Flowers

Flowers for the sanctuary are provided by the Bride and Groom. Please inform your florist not to use adhesives to attach bows or pins to secure the runner. The aisle is 90 feet long. Please consider leaving a basket of flowers for the altar after your wedding. Rice, confetti and bird seed are not allowed, nor are flower petals tossed by a flower girl.



Due to fire laws, *no lit candles* are allowed along the aisle or outside on church property.

Wedding Rehearsal

Maureen Miller is the **Wedding Rehearsal Coordinator**. Please call her directly to make appointments and to arrange a scheduled wedding rehearsal. She can be reached at (781) 245-5770 or by email at mmiller@stjosephwakefield.org.

Rehearsals usually take place the day before the wedding however scheduling is flexible. Call Maureen to reserve a rehearsal time. Please allow approximately 60 minutes for the rehearsal.

Church Fees Paid at Rehearsal

Church	\$200
Organist	\$175-\$200
Rehearsal Fee	\$100
Altar Server Fee (2)	\$15 per server
Additional Musicians or vocalists	\$175-\$200

Jesus said:

“But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one. So they are no longer two but one. What therefore God has joined together, let no man put asunder.”

Mark 10:6-9



Saint Joseph Parish

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**Maureen Miller, Wedding Co-ordinator
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Preparing For your Wedding



Faith, Hope and Love

Let these endure among you; and the greatest of these is love The greatest of these is love.

Come let us love, for love is God, in God alone will love be our truth.

Come let us love, for love is of God, where love may be found God is there.

(1 Corinthians)

Saint Joseph Parish





*And the two shall
Become one...*

Preparing for Marriage

We request that you contact the parish approximately 6 months before your wedding date. Ask to speak to the Pastor, Fr. Ron. This time period will allow you to make arrangements and prepare in an orderly and unhurried fashion.

Engaged couples being married at St. Joseph's are required to register in a **Marriage**

Preparation Program. Several programs are offered throughout the Boston Archdiocese, including the following:

Pre Cana Program that consists of several evening sessions that are usually offered in the spring and fall of each year.

Engaged Encounter Weekends are held in various locations and run for one weekend.

Engaged Encounter Days are held for a full day.

Please check the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston's website to obtain a list of marriage preparation programs and locations listed by month. Go to: www.bostoncatholic.org click on "Office and Services", then either click on or search for "Marriage Ministries."

A Roman Catholic Wedding

The Roman Catholic wedding rite takes place with the Sacrament of Matrimony, one of the seven sacraments Catholics believe are channels of God's grace. The ceremony consists, at least,

of three biblical readings, the exchange of vows, the exchange of rings, the Prayer of the Faithful, the nuptial blessing, prayers and appropriate music.

The Roman Catholic wedding is rich in tradition and liturgy. Since a wedding is primarily a worship service where God who calls a man and a woman together in marriage, great care should go into planning the ceremony itself. The Church offers this sacred opportunity to join with family and friends in dedicating the couple's marriage to God, the author of all love.

The marriage ceremony is not a private ceremony, but rather a public ritual. It is celebrated in the Church and encourages those who have gathered not only to witness the vows of the couple, but also to participate fully in the liturgy.

The Sacrament usually takes place during a Mass, referred to as a Nuptial Mass. The Catholic Church encourages the couple - and other Catholic bridal party members - to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before receiving the Sacrament of Matrimony. Weddings are not scheduled for Holy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Saturday, nor are weddings scheduled for those hours when Mass is held for the congregation.

The Church is the appropriate setting for a wedding because it is a place sanctified by communal worship and the place where the sacrament of marriage is more significantly symbolized.

The booklet "Together for Life" by Joseph M. Champlin is an excellent resource for planning a Catholic Wedding and is available in the rectory.

Meeting with the Priest

Couples planning to marry should contact the pastor at least six month prior to the wedding date to plan their ceremony and discuss what it means to marry in the Catholic Church. Call the rectory and ask to speak with Fr. Ron.

Civil Requirements

A Massachusetts marriage license must be presented at the rehearsal. There is a waiting period to obtain a license and medical certificates must be provided. Be sure to allow sufficient time to apply for your license.

Time Schedule

So that adequate time is allowed for a prayerful and reflective ceremony, we request that Saturday weddings are scheduled either before 2:00 p.m. or after 5:30 p.m. Sunday weddings should begin after 1:00 and end before 4:00 p.m.

Music in the Church

Music is always an important element for the Sacrament of Marriage. Our Music Director, Anne Grant, will meet with you individually to help you choose the music for your special day. Please contact her at (781) 696-6709.



Photo/Videography

Photography and video recording is allowed within reason. Persons taking pictures and videos should not detract from the sacrament of marriage. We appreciate your consideration.